

Three Soldiers from the 3rd Sig. Bde. take time to reflect during the memorial service for their teammate and friend, Spc. Raymond E. Forbis, who died in an automobile accident on Feb. 13.



Photo by Pvt. 2 Tiffany Mercer, 7th MPAD

Soldier remembered by 3rd Sig. Bde. comrades

By Pvt. 2 Tiffany Mercer

7th MPAD

A memorial service for Spc. Raymond E. Forbis, an armorer with the 3rd Signal Brigade, was held at the 4th Infantry Division Memorial Chapel here Feb. 22.

Forbis died Feb. 13 in an automobile accident in Cedar Park.

A native of White House, Texas, Forbis was assigned to 4th Battalion, 5th Air Defense Artillery in March 2003.

Upon his arrival, he was assigned as a platoon leader driver with Battery A. He later went on to serve as a Bradley linebacker driver and as a Bradley crew dismount.

Forbis deployed to Iraq in March 2004 in support of Iraqi Freedom II, where he was later awarded the Purple Heart for injuries he sustained at Butler

Range, Iraq, as a result of unexploded ordnance.

Forbis also earned an Army Commendation Medal with "V" device, a Combat Action Badge, a Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

A choked-up Spc. Chance R. Webb added to the somber mood of the services by offering a tribute to his friend. Webb tearfully remembered how Forbis could ease the tension in a stressed situation. "Forbis could find humor in anything," he said.

"Although he was taken early in his life, he will always be remembered in the Assault Battery," said Capt. David F. Vodarick, commander of Btry. A.

Forbis is survived by his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Forbis, and his brother, Adam.